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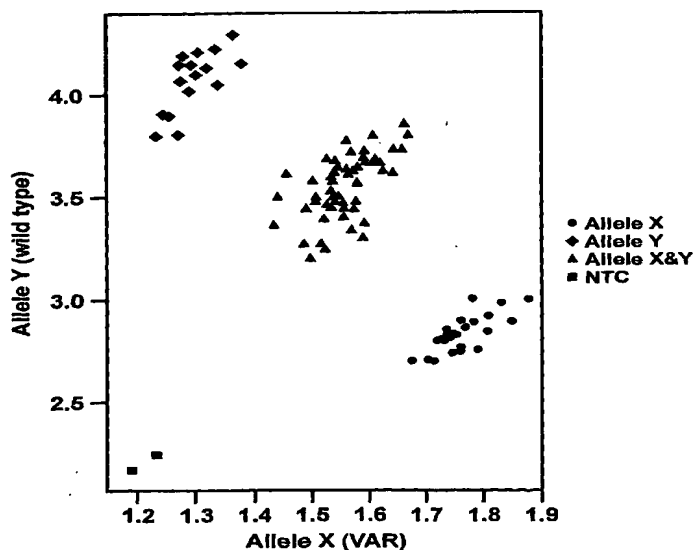
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METALLOPROTEINASE GENE POLYMORPHISM IN COPD



(57) Abstract: A method for genetic testing relating to chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), including testing for a single nucleotide polymorphism within the metal loproteinase-9 gene, an exon 6, codon 279 Gln/Arg polymorphism, where in presence of the variant polymorphism, particularly homozygous presence, is predictive of susceptibility to COPD. Further provided are methods of selecting patients for specific therapies and methods of drug development and discovery for treatment and prevention of COPD.



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